



272 2662

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**Docket No. A34241**  
**MBHB Docket No. 04-974**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 2, 2004**

In response to the Office Action mailed December 2, 2004, Applicant submits the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2, amendments to the claims begin on page 6, and remarks begin on page 15.